

Name: _____ Date: _____

Polynomial Factoring solution (version 627)

1. The quadratic formula says if $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ then $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$. Use the quadratic formula to solve the following equation.

$$x^2 - 8x + 34 = 0$$

Simplify your answer(s) as much as possible.

Solution

$$x = \frac{-(-8) \pm \sqrt{(-8)^2 - 4(1)(34)}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-(-8) \pm \sqrt{64 - 136}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{8 \pm \sqrt{-72}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{8 \pm \sqrt{-36 \cdot 2}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{8 \pm 6\sqrt{2}i}{2}$$

$$x = 4 \pm 3\sqrt{2}i$$

Notice that i is NOT under the square-root radical symbol!!

2. Express the product of $-3 - 2i$ and $-4 - 7i$ in standard form $(a + bi)$.

Solution

$$(-3 - 2i) \cdot (-4 - 7i)$$

$$12 + 21i + 8i + 14i^2$$

$$12 + 21i + 8i - 14$$

$$12 - 14 + 21i + 8i$$

$$-2 + 29i$$

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3. Write function $f(x) = x^3 + 5x^2 - 2x - 24$ in factored form. I'll give you a hint: one factor is $(x + 4)$.

Solution

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc} & 1 & 5 & -2 & -24 \\ -4 & & -4 & -4 & 24 \\ \hline & 1 & 1 & -6 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$f(x) = (x + 4)(x^2 + x - 6)$$

$$f(x) = (x + 4)(x + 3)(x - 2)$$

4. Polynomial p is defined below in factored form.

$$p(x) = (x + 2)^2 \cdot (x - 1) \cdot (x - 4)^2 \cdot (x - 7)$$

Sketch a graph of polynomial $y = p(x)$.

